Share cost of Sardar Sarovar Project

789. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that payment of arrears towards share cost of Sardar Sarovar Project by the participating States *viz.*, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Rajasthan are not being paid by them to Gujarat regularly;

(b) whether Government propose to take suitable effective steps in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) Yes, Sir. As reported by the Sardar Sarovar Narmada Nigam Limited, Government of Gujarat, the payment of share cost of Sardar Sarovar Project to the Government of Gujarat is not being made regularly by the participating States of Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan.

(b) and (c) The issue of the payment of share cost of Sardar Sarovar Project by the party States to the Government of Gujarat is being discussed in the Narmada Control Authority meetings and other fora such as Sardar Sarovar Construction Advisory Committee, Review Committee for Narmada Control Authority, etc. from time to time and the States are being impressed upon to provide sufficient budgetary provisions for payments of their share for construction of the Sardar Sarovar Project to Government of Gujarat.

Cloud seeding technology to control drought

790. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that Karnataka has adopted cloud seeding technology to tackle drought in the State;

(b) whether Government are also aware that several States including Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra are trying to emulate Karnataka's cloud seeding experiment;

(c) whether Karnataka Chief Minister has urged the Central Government to evolve a national policy on cloud seeding to help drought prone area of the country; and

(d) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No. Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

State Government of Orissa's Proposal to Central Government for Flood-control

791. SHRI B.J. PANDA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Government of Orissa has taken special steps to control floods in river Mahanadi, Tel and Ib if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the State proposes to implement river interlinking projects and to construct barrages over river to control floods, if so, the details of the project with cost involved; and

(c) whether the State Government has submitted a proposal in this regard to the Central Government, if so, the status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) As per the information received from the Government of Orissa, besides, the Hirakud Dam on river Mahanadi and some medium projects on its tributaries which are able to moderate floods in its downstream, projects like Lower Indra, Lower Suktel, Titilagarh etc. are in progress in the catchement of Tel river. On the river Ib, a reservoir project has been technically cleared by Central Water Commission. Besides, the State Government have also planned projects covering a catchment of 12,454 sq. Km. Thus, most of the catchment has either been intercepted or planned to be intercepted by reservoir projects. The Government of Orissa has also prepared a scheme for raising and strengthening of the embankments to cater to a flood of 14,00,000 cusecs.

(b) At present the State Government has not proposed any interlinking project and to construct barrages over rivers for flood control.

(c) No. Sir.